GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TEXTILES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:796
ANSWERED ON:25.07.2003
EXPORT OF TEXTILES PRODUCTS
MAHBOOB ZAHEDI;MINATI SEN

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of items including carpets have been deleted from the list of items eligible for duty free import into USA under the Generalised System of Preferences (GSP);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) its effects on the domestic carpet industry; and

(d) the corrective steps taken to revive the carpet industry of the country ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI BASANAGOUDA R. PATIL (YATNAL)

(a) to (d): According to a notice issued by the US Trade Representative on 1.7.03, Indian carpets classified under HTS Sub-heading 5702.99.20 (Carpets and other textile floor covering not of pile construction, woven) have graduated out of the US GSP Scheme as the item has exceeded competitive need limitation and de minimus waiver is not admissible. The total import of this item into US is US$ 15,138 which is negligible as compared with our total carpet exports to US of US$ 250 million. Besides, there are many carpet products which still enjoy US GSP benefits. Therefore, no significant effects are envisaged on the domestic carpet industry from withdrawal of GSP concession on the item.